

The Twenty-fifth Annual meeting of the American Ornithologists' Union, held in Philadelphia, December 9 to 12, was the first meeting of this body which it has been the privilege of the writer to attend. One of the marked features of this meeting was the good fellowship which prevailed everywhere and at all times. The local committee's efforts to make this meeting a most enjoyable one were crowned with success. Most of the papers presented were of a popular scientific nature since the general public were invited to the meetings, but it was not difficult to perceive a deep undercurrent of the scientific spirit pervading those who are engaged in the active business of studying the birds. A great mass of facts has been gathered; we must now inquire what they mean. The next meeting of the Union was set for November 16, 1908, at Cambridge, Mass. It is not too early to begin planning to attend that meeting now. A fuller attendance of ornithologists would be of great advantage to the cause of the study of the birds as well as an inspiration to the individual.

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#### GENERAL NOTES.

NOTES FROM BRISTOL, CONN. The following scattered notes may prove of interest as illustrating what seem to be unusual conditions in this vicinity during the past year.

Pine Grosbeaks appeared December 2, 1906, and were last seen March 31, 1907. They were unusually plentiful for this locality.

Evening Grosbeaks were first seen on February 27, the last day on which they were recorded. The males were in brilliant plumage, and at least one sang *sotto voce* on one occasion. We could see them eating maple seeds, and they appeared to eat snow. They were often within twenty-five feet of us.

On April 27 I had a rare experience with an American Woodcock. As I was walking in a woods with some companions a sitting Woodcock caught my eye just as I was about to step upon her. The bird made no least motion while I watched her, and while my companions came up and looked until they were satisfied. As I stooped toward her with extended hand she made no move until my hand was within six inches of her head, when she suddenly flew off. There were three young in the nest, one of which stood up and stepped out of the nest; another nestled down motionless except for a slight movement of the head. The air was cold so we hastened away to permit the mother to return and hover the young. Two days later I found four shells in the nest. Doubtless one of the eggs was covered by the young and was not seen on the first day. FRANK BRUEN, *Bristol, Conn.*

HENSLOW'S SPARROW IN OHIO IN 1907. The rarity of this Sparrow in Ohio makes its appearance in some numbers and at two widely sep-